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Mäklin has published an elaborate monograph of the Strongylium-tribe (heteromorous Coleoptera), with four plates. An interesting biography of the late Prof. Nordenskjöld, the celebrated mineralogist and geologist, is also given in the same volume. In the "Proceedings of the Finnish Society of Science" Prof. Lindberg has published several smaller botanical papers, *i. e.*, "On a New Species of *Pimelia* (*P. vividula*) and *Musschea* (*M. pallescens*)"; and "On an abnormal fructification in *Passiflora*," etc.

NATURAL HISTORY MISCELLANY.

BOTANY.

A NEW FRAGARIA.—The *Fragaria* which I venture, after a careful examination of all the authors within my reach, to pronounce a new one, was brought from Jalapa, Mexico, in the fall of 1858, to Michigan, by Mr. F. Mack. Only one plant survived the journey. From that originated the extensive plantation of J. P. Whiting & Co., of Detroit, who are in vain endeavoring to supply the Western demand for plants, at \$3 a dozen. It is known in Michigan as the Mexican Ever-bearing Strawberry, and, according to most reliable testimony, it richly deserves its name. From early June into October—indeed so long as sunlight has strength to ripen berries—it is busy in putting forth fresh flowers and maturing fruit. It is hardy and exceedingly prolific. Its fruit is large, firm, fragrant, sweet, and exquisitely flavored. It belongs to that section of the genus which bears its achenes, or carpels, superficially on the receptacle, and is distinguished from all its congeners by its dichotomous stem and racemose flowers.

In justice to Henry Gillman, Esq., the active and meritorious botanist who first indicated its claims to specific rank, as well as in token of my warm regard for him, I propose for it the name of *Fragaria Gillmani*; and I characterize it thus:

Fragaria Gillmani.—*Caule dichotomo, foliis ternatis, foliolis petiolatis, floribus hermaphroditis racemosis, carpellibus superficialibus.*

I annex a detailed description furnished by Mr. Gillman:

Stem erect, longer than the leaves, dichotomous, racemose, many-flowered, bearing a perfect trifoliate leaf variously situated from below the middle to the summit of the peduncle, which is clothed with a spreading or deflexed pubescence, more silky, and ascending or appressed on the pedicles and calyx. Leaves coriaceous, coarsely serrate, the serratures ovate-mucronate, rugose, silky villous, the hairs closely appressed, particularly beneath, leaflets petiolate, the two lateral leaflets unequal towards the base, borne on long channelled footstalks, which are clothed with spreading or deflexed hairs. Flower perfect, eight lines in diameter; calyx segments not longer than the roundish spreading petals, the exterior segments or bractlets often cleft or parted, much smaller than the interior segments, which are ovate-lanceolate. Fruit drooping, but always raised far above the ground on the erect stem; bright scarlet, of an irregular conical form, gratefully sweet, sub-acid, singularly fragrant; achenia numerous,

superficial (not sunk in pits), closely covering the surface of the berry, which is produced continuously from June to November. Propagating very rapidly by stolons or runners; also by side stools or offshoots from the central crown, which are tuberous and easily separated. Height of plant twelve to fifteen inches. Perennial; May to November. — [G. W. CLINTON, *Buffalo*.]

ZOÖLOGY.

NEW SALAMANDER. — Prof. E. D. Cope informs us that he has just discovered an interesting genus of Salamanders from Mexico. It differs from *Sperlerpes*, in having the parietal and palatine bones unossified, and the inner nares opening into the orbits. The phenygoid teeth are in one patch. Toes, four on the front feet and five on the hind, rudimentary. The tail is as long as the head and body together. The total length is only two inches. It has a pale dorsal band and black sides. A female specimen contained eggs one line in diameter. He has called the species, which is a new generic type, *Thorius pennatribus*.

BREEDING OF RARE BIRDS. — Mr. G. A. Boardman, of Milltown, Me., writes us (Nov., 1868) that he collected the nests and eggs of the following birds in the spring of 1868: — Gos-hawk, Canada Jay, White-winged Crossbill, Pine Finch, and the Pine Grosbeak.

TENNESSEE WARBLER. — In the June (1868) NATURALIST, Mr. Tripp in his interesting article, states that this warbler is not found in New England, or only as a straggler. With us it is one of our very common warblers, and I can collect half a dozen almost any morning about the twentieth of May. A few remain through the season. — G. A. BOARDMAN,

PERCHING OF WILSON'S SNIPE. — In the August (1868) NATURALIST you ask if, like Mr. Pope, any one has observed Wilson's Snipe on trees? This is not an uncommon habit of the bird, when you are taking its nest or catching its young; but I have never observed it at any other time. Of our sixteen species of ducks, I have observed the same thing in all but two, when trying to catch their young. — G. A. B.

MICROSCOPY.

TYPE-PLATE OF DIATOMS. — Möller of Wedel, Holstein, has accomplished the most wonderful feat of modern manipulation, with the exception, perhaps, of Nobert's ruled lines. The slides he prepares have been described to us in the letter of a correspondent, who is the fortunate possessor of two. "The diatoms (four hundred species in all), arranged by genera and species, form groups of one hundred, set with the most perfect regularity and symmetry, and the whole occupies a space of about three-sixteenths of an inch. Each slide is a cabinet, — a collection in itself, — and is accompanied by a catalogue of its contents. This one is called the 'Type Plate,' and cost \$40.00. The 'Test Plate,' from the same operator, contains, set in one row with the most perfect regularity, twenty tests, by order of difficulty."